844 is buried in the camp. The child is bathed, and tiny washers made of tucum nut hull are placed [304] on its ear lobes. The washer or ring is cut on an angle so that the two points eventually press through the lobe creating a hole. As the child grows, new washers are added. After a few weeks [551] the child is given a beaded necklace, but it is not named, being known only as the child of so-and-so until puberty, when it receives a name. The Wakítisu appear to have no avoidances following the birth of a child, although the Kitánrhu are [845] said to practice a modified form of couvade. Twins are accepted with satisfaction. Illegitimate [848] children are likewise accepted and are cared for by the girl's parents until she marries. No stigma appears to be attached to an unmarried mother; however, this attitude may be a recent development. [845] Crippled or malformed babies are not [847] killed, but usually die shortly after birth.

Children are nursed until they are 2 or 3 years 853 old or until another child is born. Women in the band assist one another in nursing and taking care of the infants. If a woman should have two small infants, another woman who has lost her 854 child will nurse one of them. Small children are carried on the hip of the mother, sitting on a strap which passes over the opposite shoulder of the mother. This strap which is made from embira bark or woven cotton is about 4 inches in width. Women evidently are accustomed to carrying heavy loads, for on many occasions the tiny women were observed carrying not only their child but also a huge burden basket full of firewood. When the child gets a few teeth it begins to chew on a piece of broiled meat. One morning while Kaoro and I were debating what to do with a rat which we had caught in a box trap the night before, neither of us having the courage to put our hand in the box, one of the missionaries suggested we give it to the Nambicuara. Kaoro then carried the box over to Julio's camp and gave it to one of his wives. Without any hesitation 853 the woman put her hand in the box, pulled out 252 the rat, banged its head on the box, and threw it on the coals of her fire. After the hair had been partially singed off she pulled it out, cut off its tail with her thumb nail, and gave it to her cowife's baby, who began sucking on it as if it had been a piece of candy. Then with her thumb